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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/577,790	05/24/2000	Antonio Moroni	498-206	4530
23869	7590	03/15/2004	EXAMINER	
HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP 6900 JERICHO TURNPIKE SYOSSET, NY 11791			PELLEGRINO, BRIAN E	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3738	20	

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/577,790	MORONI, ANTONIO
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Brian E Pellegrino	3738

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Brian E Pellegrino.

(3) _____.

(2) Jamie M. Larmann.

(4) _____.

Date of Interview: 12 March 2004.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference
c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1,11,17,18 and 21.

Identification of prior art discussed: Schmitt, Stinson, Kuwahara.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.



Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant's representative proposed amendments to claims, with some limitations being process steps in a product claim. The examiner reminded Ms. Larmann that product-by-process claims are not limited to the process in determining patentability. Regarding the method claim, the limitations added to claim 17, would require further consideration as would the limitation of crimps in claim 21, since these limitations were not searched before. The examiner also reminded Applicant's representative that a restriction was in effect and a change in species could warrant the claim being withdrawn. Also discussed was that new limitations to the claims must have proper antecedent basis in the specification. Additionally, the examiner found that even if some of the amendments avoid the rejections of record, they possibly could be rejected with other art or different combinations.